

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOSH ZEPNICK

SERVING WISCONSIN'S 9TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Capitol Update – Municipal ID Bill

January 27th, 2016

Dear Neighbor,

I want to share with you an update on some disappointing news from the State Capitol and my actions to stand up for Milwaukee. Over the past two weeks, Legislative Republicans have introduced, and are now attempting to rush through, a bill which would infringe upon Milwaukee's authority to issue local identification. Assembly Bill 723 was introduced in the Assembly on January 15th, the Senate Bill (SB 533) received a hearing on the 26th, and I fear they will be moved quickly through the Legislature in the coming weeks.

The bill comes as a direct response to a City of Milwaukee/Milwaukee County plan to issue local ID cards to the homeless, immigrants, and a host of others who are unable to obtain a driver's license or other form of identification. AB 723 is a direct attack on local control and nothing more than an attempt to block a local decision the authors of the bill do not like. The County and City of Milwaukee have decided ID cards to be a necessary component of life, and would allow residents currently without IDs to access things like prescriptions, bank accounts, and community resources. It should be up to local government, not the Legislature, to determine how they use their resources to help citizens access vital services.

Despite their best attempts to rush this bill past the wishes of the people, I, along with many others across Milwaukee, spoke against and registered our opposition to this legislation at the public hearing on Tuesday. I want you to know I will continue to fight for Milwaukee as your elected Representative. You can see progress of the Assembly bill at <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/proposals/ab723>. Scheduled hearings and updates can be found on that page, and should it come up for a hearing in the Assembly, I'd love to see you in Madison to help me in this fight.

As always, my best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Zepnick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Josh Zepnick
State Representative
9th Assembly District
Wisconsin State Assembly